

Strategies for planning and getting writing done

Planning

Here are ways to come up with ideas to write:

- Reading papers
- Discussing with colleagues & lab members
 - In person, formal
 - Blogs & other online forums
 - News letters
 - “Science at the pub’ or ‘science café’ events
- Attend conferences

Once you come with an idea, you can plan your writing. I suggest you write a dot-point outline of your paper, with all headings and sub-headings and the dot summaries of the main content.

Such outline is very helpful as it gives your writing logic and flow. At this stage, the wording is irrelevant as the outline is intended for you only and not for other people.

Once you have outline, decide which parts are important and which ones are not. You can also narrow down broad ideas to specific ideas. Every dot point then becomes one paragraph. Under one paragraph, you can have dot points which become sentences. You can arrange similar ideas next to each other using linking words.